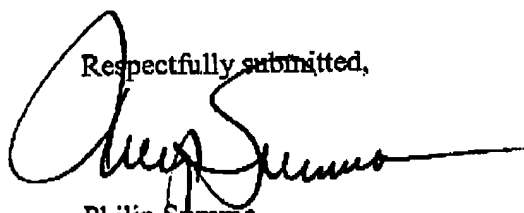


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REMARKS

Claim 9 has been amended to convert it from a "use" style format to a "method" format as suggested by the Examiner. In view of the Examiner's restriction requirement, new Claims 21 to 27 have been added to more completely protect the invention of Group II. New Claims 21 and 22 have been added to specify particular disorders of spinal compression. New Claims 23 to 28 correspond generally in scope to former Claims 2 to 7 which depended from former Claim 1.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, c/o Technology Center 1600 at facsimile number 703-872-9306 on June 6, 2003.


Philip Summa